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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON BIOLOGICAL WARFARE BY A SOVIET SCIENTIST

In the May 1952 issue of *Priroda* (Vol XLI, No 5, pp 3-6), Professor V. D. Timakov, Acting Member, Academy of Medical Sciences USSR, published an article entitled "Ogradit' Chelovechestvo ot Ugrosy Bacteriologicheskoy Voyny" (To Protect Humanity Against the Threat of Bacteriological Warfare). Information from this article, as republished in *Pravda*, was given in OO-W-24595. In the June 1952 issue of *Nauka i Zhizn'* (Vol XIX, No 6, pp 35-37), another version of the same article was published under the same title by Timakov. Although the text of both versions is essentially the same, the wording and arrangement are in part different. The version published in *Nauka i Zhizn'* contains statements which are not made in *Priroda*, and sometimes elaborates and modifies statements and assertions made in the earlier publication.

In *Nauka i Zhizn'*, Timakov says that Microbiologists D. K. Zabolotnyy and I. G. Savchenko proved the effectiveness of inoculations against cholera by taking perorally ("prinimat'") a killed culture of cholera vibrios and then drinking a living culture of cholera which was lethal to rabbits.

In describing N. N. Zhukov-Verezhnikov's work on plague, the *Nauka i Zhizn'* version says that this scientist had to go abroad to pursue his investigations because there is no plague in the USSR. The text in *Nauka i Zhizn'* then emphasizes the high quality of the sanitary and prophylactic services of the Soviet army and points out that no epidemic diseases whatever occurred in that army during World War II.

The version in *Priroda* refers to encephalitis as a disease disseminated by Americans in the course of biological warfare waged by the US in Korea and North-eastern China, but the text in *Nauka i Zhizn'* refers to encephalites in that connection. In *Priroda*, Timakov says that there is a danger of the formation of persistent natural foci if infected ticks are used in biological warfare, as the Americans do in Korea and China; in *Nauka i Zhizn'*, he says that it is savage and barbarous of the Americans to use infected ticks in biological warfare, because such foci may form.

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The text in Priroda states that 4,000 US specialists are working on BW methods at Camp Detrick and Randolph Field, which are referred to as special Air Force institutes; in Nauka i Zhizn', the 4,000 specialists are said to be working at Camp Detrick alone and no reference is made to the Air Force.

The text in Nauka i Zhizn' cites the statement made by Walter Schreiber, to which Priroda refers only in general terms. According to the statement attributed to Schreiber in Nauka i Zhizn', he said that in addition to animals, the Germans used war prisoners of Slavic origin in BW experiments, because they regarded Slavs as members of an inferior race.

According to Timakov's article in Nauka i Zhizn', the immediate developments which led to the alleged application of BW in Korea by Americans were as follows: Dr. W. G. Nungester, the president of the American Society of Bacteriologists' conducted propaganda in favor of increased assignment of funds for research on biological warfare. Nungester's propaganda found a ready response among US imperialists. At the end of January 1952, Brig Gen William Creasy, Chief, Research and Engineering Command, US Army Chemical Corps, made the following public statement: "I am of the opinion that the weapon being created by us will make it possible to reduce the enemy's capacity to defend himself so that victory will be achieved without destroying the enemy's economy. It will be possible to accomplish this at a very small expense connected with delivery of the weapon. As distinguished from the atomic bomb and other explosive weapons, BW is primarily directed against human beings; buildings and machines are not destroyed. BW acts directly on human beings and their sources of food supply, i. e., cattle and crops." Timakov says, "Soon after this frank admission, American criminals decided to apply BW in Korea and China."

The article in Nauka i Zhizn' is illustrated by four pictures credited to the Chinese Photographic Agency. According to the captions, these pictures represent: (1) a bacteriological bomb which has opened after being dropped, (2) an enlarged photograph of an infected insect disseminated by American "occupationists," (3) infected insects dropped from American planes, and (4) infected insects resembling ordinary flies which have been dropped from American planes.

Picture 4 shows slender, elongated winged insects with long antennae. While apparently belonging to some species of fly, they look very different from ordinary houseflies.

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